

## House Republican Press Release

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Press Office: 860-240-8700

### **Representative Frey Announces Funds For Town Of Ridgefield, Nearby Plant Expansion**



State Representative John H. Frey, R-Ridgefield, today announced that the State Bond Commission today approved funds to upgrade Ridgefield's tax appraisal and assessment system and to aid in the expansion of the Boehringer-Ingelheim Pharmaceutical plant. The funds were approved during the Bond Commission's monthly meeting in Hartford this morning.

The town of Ridgefield will receive a \$38,500 grant to cover expenses related to developing or modifying its state certified computer assisted mass appraisal system. In accordance with state statute, municipalities that have implemented revaluation during the years 1987-1996, inclusive, are eligible for funding on the basis of population.

"I'm pleased the Governor and Bond Commission have approved this grant for Ridgefield," said Rep. Frey, who serves as an Assistant Minority Leader. "It helps the town modernize its system of assessing property and reduce the impact of the upgrades on local taxpayers."

The bond commission also approved a \$500,000 grant to aid in the expansion of the Boehringer-Ingelheim Pharmaceutical plant at 900 Ridgebury Road, on the Danbury-Ridgefield border. The funds awarded to the City of Danbury will be used for the design of infrastructure and roadway improvements in vicinity of the plant. An increase in traffic from area development and hilly topography have contributed to safety issues near into their campus. The improvements will also better facilitate the anticipated increase in visitor and employee traffic at the facility. Boehringer-Ingelheim is expected to create an additional 500 jobs during the next five years.

"Boehringer-Ingelheim is not only a valued large employer but an outstanding member of the community as well," said Rep. Frey. "We look forward to the state making a further commitment to the expansion project."